4:Grajdanzev--175-176 S-4 (no date) 1942 Formosans
116, 276, 435, 733

"In the early days of British commercial domination Taiwan was notorious for the prevalence of opium smoking. When the Japanese conquered the island, they decided to apply a method of licensing opium smokers. Those who were addicted to this evil practice were permitted to continue it on payment of a certain fee for a license, but no new addicts were permitted. In 1898 95,449 addicts were licensed. However, some years later a more careful survey brought to light (1) as many as 165,752. In 1908 there were

1. Y. Takagi. Japan Magazine. 1930, pp. 244-248.

119,991 licensed opium smokers, in 1926 there were 31,434 and it was said that the majority of them were over 55 years age. However, in 1938 there were 10,788 opium smokers still alive. In 1906 when there were at least 130,000 licensed opium smokers, they bought 4,395,497 yen worth of opium; in 1938, when there were only 10,788 opium smokers, they bought 1,863,063 yen worth. The explanation is that in 1906 one kilo of opium was sold by the government for 23.0 yen, in 1938, it cost 120 yen, or five times as much. This reliance on price increases, however beneficial it may have [176] been for the Treasury. has unfortunately led some addicts to turn to other, cheaper substitutes, such as morphine and heroin."